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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/672,808

09/26/2003

Peter Nilsson

SSJR 3370-P0058A

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07/11/2007

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EXAMINER

BURCH, MELODY M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3683

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/11/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/672,808

Applicant(s)

NILSSON ET AL.

Examiner

Melody M. Burch

Art Unit

3683

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 April 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-45 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3-13, 23, and 25-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e1) as being anticipated by US Patent Application 2003/0029680 to Ralea et al.

Re: claims 1, 5-8, 15-18, 23, and 27-29. Ralea et al. disclose a vehicle brake system comprising: a brake actuator 27, a brake controller 29 operative to control said brake actuator, at least one position sensor 36 which senses a current position of at least one moveable brake component 35 or 135 or 164 and provides a current position signal indicative of the current position of the at least one moveable brake component to said brake controller as evident from elements 36 and 44, and wherein said brake controller is operative to cause actuation of said brake actuator based at least in part upon a comparison of a position indicative command received by said brake controller, the position indicative command indicative of a commanded position to which the at least one moveable brake component is to be moved in order to achieve a demanded level of braking, with the current position signal as disclosed in paragraph [0054] and in claim 38 along with position feedback element number 44 in figure 1.

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Re: claims 3, 4, 25, and 26. Ralea et al. disclose the brake actuator comprising at least in part an electric motor 33.

Re: claims 9-13 and 30-34. Ralea et al. disclose the primary command comprising at least one of a commanded brake torque, a commanded friction force and a commanded clamping force, particularly a commanded friction force as disclosed in paragraph [0045] and employing a slack position parameter as suggested in paragraph [0054].

Re: claim 35. Ralea et al. disclose the sensor input from sensor 36 being indicative of at least a current position of the at least one moveable brake component.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 14-22, 24, and 36-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ralea et al. in view of US Patent 4852699 to Karnopp et al.

Ralea et al. describe the invention substantially as set forth above, but lack the limitation of the brake actuator being self-energizing. For the remaining limitations of claim 36 also see the rejection of claims 1 and 23.

Karnopp et al. teach in col. 1 lines 26-31 the use of a self-energizing actuator of a vehicle brake assembly.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the brake actuator of Ralea et al. to have been self energizing, as taught by Karnopp et al., in order to provide a means of multiplying the force urging the brake pads and disk into braking engagement as taught by Karnopp et al.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments, see pgs. 2-6, filed 4/9/07, with respect to the rejection(s) of the claim(s) using the Ichinose et al. reference under 35 USC 102 and 103 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Ralea et al.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melody M. Burch whose telephone number is 571-272-7114. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (6:30 AM-3:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Siconolfi can be reached on 571-272-7124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

mmb
June 21, 2007

Melody M. Burch
Melody M. Burch
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3683

6/21/07